

MAC members (from page 1)

At the state level, Montague was on the State Legislative Committee for Foster Care, was a member of the Governor's Conference on the Family, and chaired the State Child Advocacy Committee. She also served as a regional board member of the Northern Plains Youth Coalition.

She received a Volunteer of the Year award from Billings Junior League, a certificate of honor from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for contributions made in the International Year of the Child, and received the state Child Advocacy Award.

Montague's paintings are included in many private collections and have been shown in several local, regional and international juried shows. Two painted sculptures, "Dragon Horse" and "Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," are on display around Billings.

In 2012, her book *Rim Haven* was selected as a finalist in the Best First Book category by the High Plains Book Award Committee. Montague resides in Billings with her husband Jay. Having raised three boys, they now enjoy three grandchildren with fraternal twins on the way.

Jean Steele, Hamilton

Jean Steele began teaching at Hamilton High School in 1973, and during her 36 years there taught English literature, composition and creative writing. She was the first secondary school teacher appointed to Humanities Montana (formerly the Montana Committee for the Humanities), and served as chair of that organization in 2005.

She coached the Hamilton speech team for nine years, and during that time the team took four state championships. She also served as director of the state speech meet in 1976 and 1980.

As director of the school's theatre arts program, she helped students produce four plays a year, built participation in the program from a handful of students to 20 percent of the student body, and increased audiences from a smattering of adults to full-house crowds. Her enthusiasm for theatre also spills over to the community, where she has devised and directed basic drama activities for kids, produced and directed a musical for adults, and staged melodramas and mystery events for local service clubs.

From 1990-1991, she taught English grammar, pronunciation, writing and vocabulary at the American Institute in Taipei, Taiwan, and also taught workshops and seminars and worked as a technical writer. Steele earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees in English from The University of Montana. She studied British history at Christ's College, Cambridge, England; and studied medieval and renaissance art in Florence, Italy, as a National Endowment for the Humanities fellow.

She has received several teaching awards and a Carnegie Mellon Fellowship. A portion of her research was featured in the publication *Minds Alive: Teachers as Scholars*, a compilation of case studies reflecting the importance of intellectual rejuvenation for teachers.

Steele is president of the Friends of the Hamilton Schools Foundation, which provides not only grants for classroom enrichment activities but also scholarships for graduating seniors and teachers wishing to continue their education. She is also on the board of the Bitter Root Land Trust, an organization dedicated to preserving working lands, clean water, and wildlife habitat in the Bitterroot Valley.



Lynne Montague

Youpa Stein, Arlee

Youpa Stein is a native Montanan with a BFA in acting and directing from The University of Montana. Her theater experience includes touring with the Montana Repertory Theatre as a student; a three-year tour (in Montana, Idaho and Alberta) of a one-woman play, "Planting in the Dust," through AERO and

Montana Committee for the Humanities (now Humanities Montana); and directing plays, including the world premiere of "Place Where Bear Dances" and four of Moira Keefe's autobiographical shows.

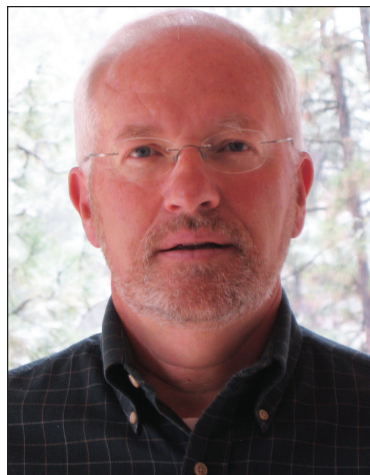
Stein graduated with a master's in psychology and drama therapy from the California Institute of Integral Studies and is a registered drama therapist. She is a founder and current program director of Living Art of Montana, a nonprofit organization based in Missoula that works primarily with people who face life-altering or life-threatening conditions and illnesses.

Stein has facilitated Living Art workshops since 1993. She is particularly interested in the use of expressive arts and nature-based experiences as ways for people to process,

explore, integrate and find new perspectives and avenues for growth. Stein knows that the arts enhance "aliveness" and support resilience.

In addition to her work in arts in healthcare, her own artwork includes an exploration of humans, the natural environment, and the human influence on our environment through masks and sculpture using both natural and made-made materials.

She lives in the forested hillsides of the Jocko Valley with her artist husband, Karl, and her son, Kai.



Mark Kuipers

Mark Kuipers, Missoula

Mark A. Kuipers is president of MAK Direct, a direct response marketing firm in Missoula that specializes in planning, developing, implementing, and optimizing comprehensive direct marketing programs. Kuipers has written and produced hundreds of TV, magazine, and radio ads and managed media campaigns for many clients including Select Comfort (The Sleep Number Bed), Black & Decker, Invisalign, The Sharper Image, Fisher Investments, Bose, Bowflex, WebEx, Best Buy, and dozens of other large and small consumer product companies.

From 1981 to 1987, he held a number of marketing positions with consumer and professional divisions at 3M, including four years at Scientific Anglers where he was the editor of five fly-fishing publications and the executive producer of fishing and hunting videos.

In 1987 he joined NordicTrack as its first marketing professional responsible for all marketing functions. Since forming MAK Direct in 1990, Kuipers has focused exclusively on helping large and small clients market their products directly to the consumer using direct marketing techniques.

Kuipers earned his bachelor's from Western Michigan University, where he majored in American studies and sociology. He received a master's degree in English and an MBA from Washington State University.

His wife, Kathy J. Kuipers, is a sociology professor at The University of Montana. They have two children, Keetje, a poet, and Jake, who is in law school.

An avid fly fisherman, Kuipers serves on the board of the West Slope Chapter of Trout Unlimited and

enjoys bow hunting, skiing, hiking, mushroom hunting and writing non-fiction articles about his experiences. When he moved to Montana in 2004, he was immediately impressed by the breadth and depth of the cultural and artistic life in Missoula and the entire state of Montana.



Rob Quist

Rob Quist, Flathead Valley

Rob Quist is a rancher's son and native Montanan living in Kalispell with his wife, Bonnie. Their two children, Guthrie and Halladay, are both musicians.

Quist is an internationally known singer, songwriter, composer and musician, and has recorded 15 CD's that focus mainly on the lives and history of the people of Montana and the West.

His music has been charted on *Billboard's* Top 100. His song, "Close to the Land," recorded by Michael Martin Murphy, is the theme song for the American Public Television show, "America's Heartland" and was awarded Song of the Year for the Texas Music Awards.

He has shared the stage with many musical giants, including Tim McGraw, Martina McBride, Dolly Parton, Heart, and the Allman Brothers.

Quist toured with Jack Gladstone during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, performing at most of the national Lewis and Clark Sig-



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Art call: UM Law and Chemistry

The Montana Arts Council's Percent-for-Art Program opened the call for finished artwork April 15 for The University of Montana Law and Chemistry buildings in Missoula. Both projects have a variety of interior and one exterior site suitable for a variety of mediums. Deadline for submissions is June 3, 2015.

Visit art.mt.gov or contact us by email at: ckozak@mt.gov.